CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing program criteria comprising:

a server computer storing a plurality of tokens, <u>wherein the plurality of tokens comprises a first token identifying a first segment</u> ~~at least two of the plurality of tokens identifying a disparate one of at least two segments~~ of a predetermined ~~one of an~~ audio and visual program <u>and a second token identifying a second segment of the predetermined audio and visual program</u>;

wherein the server is programmed to provide ~~at least one token~~ <u>the first and second tokens</u> to a remote computer as ~~an e-mail attachment~~ <u>e-mail attachments</u> based on received selection criteria, the remote computer utilizing ~~at least two tokens~~ <u>the first and second tokens</u> to selectively combine ~~at least two~~ <u>the first and second</u> program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of ~~one or more users~~ <u>a user</u> at the remote <u>computer;</u> ~~computer, the viewing characteristics comprising at least an age of the one or more users~~

<u>wherein the remote computer stores advertisements that are selectively inserted between the first and second program segments, wherein the advertisements are selected based on:</u>

<u>demographic characteristics of the user, wherein demographic characteristics comprise:</u>

<u>an age of the user;</u>

<u>location of the user;</u>

<u>occupation of the user;</u>

<u>hobbies and interests of the user</u>

programming preferences of the user; and

products and services in which the user has expressed an interest

in;

a time of day the first and second program segments are presented to the

user;

the predetermined audio and visual program; and

a genre associated with the predetermined audio and video program.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~server is programmed to transmit~~ remote computer transmits a message to ~~the~~ a second remote computer based on the selection criteria, the message including the first and second token ~~at least one token~~.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server computer is further programmed to store corresponding program data as an attribute of each token, the server providing corresponding program data with each token.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a program database is stored at the server computer, the program database including the plurality of tokens identifying a plurality of at least one of audio and visual programs.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein, in response to a translation request, the server is programmed to translate a token into a useable format for programming a recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio and visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the server is further programmed to select a tuning space based on identifying data provided with the translation request.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the server stores a unique identifier for each recording system registered with the server, each unique identifier being associated with tuning space information for each respective recording system.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the useable format includes programming data identifying at least two of date, channel, time, and duration associated with each token provided with the translation request.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server is further programmed to store the plurality of tokens as part of a programmable database, the server updating the programmable database in response to receiving an update request at the server.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the server is further programmed to notify the remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the server stores a different identifiable characteristic for each token obtained from the server, the server employing an identifiable characteristic to notify the remote computer of changes in program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the server is further programmed to provide at least one of a token and updated programming data to the remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by the at least one token previously provided to the remote computer.

15 - 23. (Canceled)

24. (Withdrawn) A system for providing program criteria comprising:

means for storing at least one token representing one of a plurality of audio-visual programs;

means for receiving a query from a user identifying program selection criteria;

means for transmitting a selected token matching the program selection criteria to a first computer in response to the query;

means for transmitting a copy of the token as an e-mail attachment from the first computer to a second computer;

means for utilizing the token to program a first recording device to record the audio-visual program by transferring the token from the first computer to the first

recording device;

means for utilizing the copy of the token to program a second recording device to record the audio-visual program by transferring the copy of the token from the second computer to the second recording device;

means for storing the program selection criteria information in a database when none of the stored tokens match the selection criteria and subsequently sending a notification to the user at a later time when a token matching the stored selection criteria becomes available; and

means for tracking the number of times the token is transmitted to a user in response to a query from the user and the number of times the token is transmitted between users.

25. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 24 further including means for updating the token storing means in response to an update request.

26. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 25 further includes means for providing at least one of a token and updated programming data to a remote computer in response to receiving an update request that modifies program criteria for a program represented by a token previously provided to the remote computer.

27. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 24 further including means for translating a token into a useable format for programming a remote recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio and visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

28. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 24, wherein the means for providing selected token data further includes means to send a message a remote computer based on the query, the message including selected token data.

29. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 24, wherein the message is a text email message, the selected token being operatively associated with the email message.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for providing program criteria to facilitate programming of a recording system, the method comprising:

sending at least two tokens, each identifying a disparate one of at least two program segments of an audio or visual program, from a first computer to a second computer as e-mail attachments based on selection criteria received at the first computer; and

utilizing the at least two tokens to selectively combine the at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of one or more users of the second computer, ~~the viewing characteristics comprising at least demographic data of the one or more users~~ wherein the second computer stores advertisements that are selectively inserted between the at least two program segments, wherein the advertisements are selected based on:

demographic characteristics of the one or more users of the second computer, wherein demographic characteristics comprise:

an age of the user;

location of the user;

occupation of the user;

hobbies and interests of the user

programming preferences of the user; and

products and services in which the user has expressed an interest

in;

a time of day the first and second program segments are presented to the

user;

the predetermined audio and visual program; and

a genre associated with the predetermined audio and video program.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30 further including searching a program database for the token based on the selection criteria.

32. (Withdrawn) A method for providing program criteria to facilitate programming of a recording system that, the method comprising

storing a plurality of tokens in a database at a first computer, each token identifying an audio or visual program;

receiving selection criteria from a second computer, the selection criteria represents a desired recording of a first user;

selecting at least one token based on the selection criteria;

sending a message to the second computer, the message having the selected at least one token associated with the message;

e-mailing the token residing on the second computer to an e-mail address associated with a first recording device;

authenticating the e-mailed token at the first recording device to verify the token was sent from an authorized source, authentication based at least on the e-mail address of the sender of the token, at least one authorized e-mail addressed defined by user configuration;

utilizing the e-mailed token to program the first recording device to record the audio or visual program represented by the token;

e-mailing a copy of the token from the second computer to an e-mail address associated with a second user; and

utilizing the copy of the token e-mailed to the second user to program a second recording device to record the audio or visual program represented by the token, the second recording device programmed by e-mailing the token to an e-mail address associated with the second recording device.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32 further including searching a program database for a token representing at least one of an audio and visual program corresponding to the selection criteria.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32, comprising sending the message to a remote computer based on address data provided by the second computer, the remote computer being different from the second computer.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32 further including updating the database at the first computer in response to an update request received at the first computer.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36 further including providing at least one of a token and updated programming data to the second computer in response updating the database so as to modify program criteria for a program represented by a token previously provided to the second computer.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32 wherein, in response to a translation request, a token is translated into programming data having a useable format for programming a remote recording system to record a predetermined at least one of an audio or visual program in a tuning space associated with the recording system.

39. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 32, wherein the message is a text email message, the selected token being operatively associated with the email message.

40. (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a server operable to receive a plurality of tokens, each token having data identifying at least one of a user and the recording system and identifying a plurality of segments of program data associated with an audio-visual program, the server being operable to communicate program data, based on the token, to a programmable recording system to effect programming of the recording system to record the audio-

visual program, the programmable recording system utilizes the plurality of tokens to selectively combine at least two of the plurality of program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of a client system; ~~system, viewing characteristics of the client system comprising at least the age of viewer~~

wherein the programmable recording system stores advertisements that are selectively inserted between the at least two program segments, wherein the advertisements are selected based on:

demographic characteristics of the one or more users of the second computer, wherein demographic characteristics comprise:

an age of the user;

location of the user;

occupation of the user;

hobbies and interests of the user;

programming preferences of the user; and

products and services in which the user has expressed an interest in;

a time of day the first and second program segments are presented to the user;

the predetermined audio and visual program; and

a genre associated with the predetermined audio and video program.

41. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the server is a first server, the token being provided as a request from a second server in response to a user selection associated with the at least one of an audio and visual program.

42. (Withdrawn) A system to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a first server operable to receive data indicative of a user selection, the first server providing a request to a second server, the request having data identifying at least one of the user or a the recording system, the second server communicates program data corresponding to an audio-visual program in at least two segments, each segment associated with a disparate token, the user selections are tracked by the second server and associated with the user; and

a programmable recording system that utilizes tokens associated with the at least two program segments to combine the at least two program segments based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of a client system, the viewing characteristics of the client system comprising at least demographic data of the user associated with the client system, wherein the programmable recording system stores advertisements that are selectively inserted between the program segments, the advertisements are selected based at least on the tracked user selections.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Withdrawn) A user interface to facilitate remote programming of a recording system, comprising:

a selectable display portion presented to a user upon selection of a token, the token associated with of an audio-visual program;

a RECORD control embedded in the selectable display portion that effects programming of a first recording system to record the audio-visual program represented

by the token; and

a SEND control embedded in the selectable display portion that facilitates emailing the token to an e-mail address, e-mailing the token allows the recipient of the token to effect programming a second recording system to record the audio-visual program.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving program content criteria from a first user via a communication link;

selecting program content based on the program content criteria received from the user;

associating the program content with at least one token, the at least one token identifying the associated program content;

transmitting the at least one token to a first client computer associated with the first user;

sending the at least one token from the first client computer to a first recording device to effect recording of the program content corresponding to the token;

e-mailing the token from the first client computer to an e-mail address associated with a second user;

determining if the e-mailed token was received from an e-mail address that has been authorized by the second user;

automatically sending the e-mailed token to a second recording device associated with the second user to effect recording of the program content without

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requesting confirmation from the second user when the token is received from an e-mail address that has been authorized by the second user; and

requesting authorization from the second user to effect recording of the program content on the second recording device when the token is received from an e-mail address that has not been authorized by the second user.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a recording system.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a server.

50. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions being executed by a processor for performing the steps of claim 46.

51. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:

transmitting for display on a remote computer information about audio-visual content;

receiving from the user computer a selection of the content;

constructing a plurality of tokens, each token associated with one of a plurality of disparate segments of the content;

selectively combining at least two of the plurality of tokens based at least in part upon viewing characteristics of at least one user associated with the remote computer, ~~the viewing characteristics comprising at least demographic data of the user~~, wherein advertisements are selectively inserted between the first and second program segments, wherein the advertisements are selected based on:

demographic characteristics of the user, wherein demographic characteristics comprise:

an age of the user;

location of the user;

occupation of the user;

hobbies and interests of the user;

programming preferences of the user; and

products and services in which the user has expressed an interest in;

a time of day the first and second program segments are presented to the user;

the predetermined audio and visual program; and

a genre associated with the predetermined audio and video program; and

transmitting the at least ~~two of the~~ plurality of tokens and advertisements to effect recording of a program.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to the remote computer.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a recording system.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the tokens are transmitted to a server.

55. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying the user.

56. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying a device associated with the user.

57. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the step of receiving further includes receiving information identifying a local tuning space and system configuration for a device.

58. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions being executed by a processor for performing the steps of claim 51.

59 - 67. (Canceled)